

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011

Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to:
Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010.**
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Project Details

1. **Project title:** Constructing a Lower Columbia River Upland Disposal Facility
2. **Organization name and address** (the recipient of the funds): Lower Columbia Solutions Group
3. **Contact information**
 - a. **Project's primary contact:** Steve Greenwood
 - b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-725-9097
 - c. **Email Address:** sgreenw@pdx.edu
 - d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address): Warrenton, Oregon
4. **Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.**

The Lower Columbia Solutions Group (LCSG) is a bi-state partnership convened in 2002 by the Governors of Oregon and Washington as a forum for nearly 30 local, state and federal stakeholders to raise issues, collaborate on policy and develop solutions for sediment management in the lower Columbia River. The LCSG includes representatives from local, state and federal government, crabbing and fishing interests, coastal communities and conservation groups, and serves as the key bi-state clearinghouse to coordinate policy, projects and research related to dredge material disposal and sediment management on the lower Columbia River. The LCSG's work integrates economic, social and environmental objectives (see www.lowercolumbiasolutions.org for more information).
5. **Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?** public

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Programs and Management Program

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

Since 2007, the LCSG has been working on a solution to help lower Columbia ports dredge and dispose of sediments that are too contaminated for in-water release. These sediments must be disposed in an up-land permitted facility to protect aquatic species and water quality. The partners recognize that pesticides, metals and other contaminants originating throughout the Columbia River watershed move down through the system and settle out at the mouth of the river, leaving lower Columbia ports with the costly problem of dredging and disposing of these materials, most of which they did not produce. Given the importance of the lower Columbia ports to the regional economy and to local communities, Oregon and Washington partners endorse a regional solution.

In 2010, LCSG partners will design and permit an upland disposal facility that can be used by multiple ports, located in an area that makes sense considering sediment transportation costs, environmental considerations and community interests. The facility will reuse a City of Warrenton wastewater lagoon that has been pre-selected with facility siting criteria and is already partially engineered to handle contaminated material. When built, the facility will hold approximately 200,000 cubic yards of material to meet the lower ports' needs for the next five to 15 years, at which point the facility will be capped to provide the City with land for redevelopment. Local and state partners are contributing \$100,000 for facility design in 2010.

Facility construction and use by lower Columbia River ports is planned for 2011-2012. The LCSG will raise local contributions and seek contributions from LCSG members. In 2011, the LCSG requests congressional appropriation of \$2 million for the first phase of facility construction.

By providing a safe place to dispose of contaminated sediments that is consistent with local land uses, this project will support a healthier river environment and the long term economic sustainability of the lower Columbia community.

By reusing an existing City of Warrenton wastewater lagoon that is already partially engineered to handle contaminated material, this project will conserve resources and land, providing a "green," win-win solution for the City, ports and the local community. In addition, the design phase will include research on the use of potential alternative energy project components and bio-remediation technologies to remove contaminants from sediments.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

This project is essential to maintain economic operations at the Port of Astoria, which is currently unable to dredge contaminated areas for lack of an upland disposal facility. The Port of Ilwaco and others are expected to need upland disposal options in the near future. Local communities and regional shipping and tourism operations depend on these ports

and their ability to dredge their docks and mooring basins, and this regional facility will provide the opportunity to regionally share and manage costs associated with dredging and disposal. Without it, economic benefits associated with cruise ship visits, groundfish, salmon and crab fisheries, and the lower Columbia maritime industry will be lost.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years? No

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project: \$2 million

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

\$1,920,000 – Phase 1 construction of the regional upland disposal facility

\$80,000 – Project management and oversight

12. What is the total cost of the project?

Estimated total costs for facility construction: \$4-5 million

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011)? Yes

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

\$25,000 – City of Warrenton

\$10,000 – Port of Astoria

\$10,000 – Columbia River Estuary Study Task Force

\$5,000 – Port of Ilwaco

\$50,000 – Oregon Business Development Department

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

LCSG members and other public and private organizations have supported and endorsed this project, including: Oregon Governor's Office, Washington Governor's Office, Port of Astoria, Port of Ilwaco, City of Warrenton, Astoria/Warrenton Chamber of Commerce, Columbia River Estuary Study Task Force, Columbia River Business Alliance, Clatsop Economic Development Resources, Columbia River Estuary Study Task Force, Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, Oregon Business Development Department, Oregon Department of State Lands, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Washington Department of Ecology, Port of Vancouver, Port of Portland, Pacific County, Clatsop County, Columbia River Crab Fisherman's Association, Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Department of Natural Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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Washington, D.C. Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Stephanie Cappa, 202-225-4811, Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov

Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov